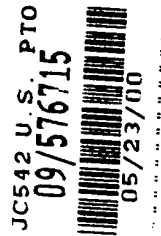


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of :
Kazuhisa HATAKEYAMA :
Serial No. NEW : Attn: Application Branch
Filed May 23, 2000 : Attorney Docket No. 2000-0644A
METHOD FOR GENE ANALYSIS

CLAIM OF PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC 119

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicant in the above-entitled application hereby claims the date of priority under the International Convention of Japanese Patent Application No. 11-144749, filed May 25, 1999 as acknowledged in the Declaration of this application.

A certified copy of said Japanese Patent Application is submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Kazuhisa HATAKEYAMA

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May 23, 2000

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